

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0004] on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] Head trauma and shock are generally regarded as the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States for children and young adults. Head trauma often results in swelling of the brain. Because the skull cannot expand, the increased pressures within the brain can lead to death or serious brain injury. While a number of therapies have been evaluated in order to reduce brain swelling, including use of hyperventilation and steroids, an effective way to treat intracranial pressures remains an important medical challenge. Similarly, multi-organ injury associated with head trauma and other vital organ damage is associated with increased pressures within the brain and decreased vital organ perfusion. These patients have an extremely high mortality rate and similarly remain a major medical challenge.